

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeremy Kriegel on 01/12/2010.

The application has been amended as below:

In the claims:

Claim 25: Cancelled.

Claim 26: Cancelled.

Claim 27: Cancelled.

Claim 28: Cancelled.

Claim 29: Cancelled.

Claim 30: Cancelled.

Claim 31: Cancelled.

Claim 32: Cancelled.

Claim 33: Cancelled.

Claim 38: Cancelled.

Claim 39: Cancelled.

Claim 40: Replaced as follows:

--40. A method of printing a representation on a print medium of an array of contiguous print data pixels comprising a plurality of parallel rows of contiguous print data pixels, the method comprising the steps of:

processing print data from said array of contiguous print data pixels such that it is distributed over an array of super pixels, each super pixel having a print level, according to a distribution function such that the print level of each super pixel is calculated based on a print data contribution from at least two print data pixels and each print data pixel contributes print data to the calculation of print levels for at least two super pixels;

and forming print pixels on the medium such that each print pixel receives a print contribution from N (where N is an integer greater than 1) super pixels,

wherein said processing step comprises distributing the print data for each of said rows of print data pixels over a respective group of N superimposed rows of contiguous super pixels, and

wherein each of said superimposed rows of super pixels extends in a row direction and each row within a group of N rows of super pixels is offset in

said row direction with respect to each of the other superimposed rows in that group.--

Claim 42: On line 1, replaced “33” in “according to Claim 33” by --44--.

Claim 43: Cancelled.

Claim 44: Replaced as follows:

--44. A printer comprising an input port adapted to receive an array of print data pixels, said array comprising a plurality of parallel rows of contiguous print data pixels; a print arrangement for forming overlapping super pixels on a print medium and a print processor adapted to process print data from said array of print data pixels such that it is distributed over the super pixels according to a distribution function such that the print level of each super pixel is calculated based on a print data contribution from at least two print data pixels and each print data pixel contributes print data to the calculation of print levels for at least two super pixels;

wherein each print pixel receives a print contribution from N (where N is an integer greater than 1) super pixels,

wherein said print processor is further adapted to distribute the print data for each of said rows of print data pixels over a respective group of N superimposed rows of contiguous super pixels, said print arrangement being

adapted to form said groups of N superimposed rows of contiguous super pixels,
and

wherein each of said superimposed rows of super pixels extends in a
row direction and each row within a group of N rows of super pixels is offset in
said row direction with respect to each of the other superimposed rows in that
group.--

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to
applicant's disclosure: Nagoshi et al. (US 6106093).

Regarding to claims 40 and 44: The primary reasons for the indication of
the allowability of the claims is the inclusions therein, in combination as currently
claimed, of the limitation that wherein each of said superimposed rows of super
pixels extends in a row direction and each row within a group of N rows of super
pixels is offset in said row direction with respect to each of the other superimposed
rows in that group is neither disclosed nor taught by the cited prior art of record,
alone or in combination.

Claims 41, 42, and 45 are allowed because they depend directly/indirectly on
claim 40 or 44.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAM S. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-2151. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM - 3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, STEPHEN D. MEIER can be reached on (571)272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/LAM S NGUYEN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2853

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